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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/763,183 | 01/26/2004 | Kenichiro Masunaga | 843.43426X00 | 6506 |

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EXAMINER

ELAMIN, ABDELMONIEM I

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2116

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/763,183

Applicant(s)

MASUNAGA, KENICHIRO

Examiner

Abdelmoniem Elamin

Art Unit

2116

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/26/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-18, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maekawa et al JP-2002015030 (*cited by Applicant*).

3. Claims 1-2, 17-18, Maekawa teaches an information provision system [*see Fig. 1*] comprising:

a database for unifying management of production progress information on a plurality of manufacturers [*220 of Fig. 1*];

a storage processing means for storing, into said database, the production progress information on said plurality of manufacturers transmitted based on a common specification [*computer 210 of Fig. 1*]; and

a display processing means for extracting necessary information from information managed in said database, in response to a request from a manufacture consignment source, and for creating display data [*abstract*],

wherein said display data is transmitted to a terminal of the manufacture consignment source and is displayed thereon [*terminal of the manufacture consignment source 3 of Fig. 1*].

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4. Claims 3-4, , Maekawa teaches information on said plurality of manufacturers is displayed on the same screen of said terminal in a display processing said display data [*see Figs. 4, 6, 7*].

5. Claims 5-6, , Maekawa teaches information managed in said database includes information such as manufacturer, product class, lot number, quantity, working steps, and forecast complete date [*Fig. 4*].

6. Claims 7-8, , Maekawa teaches information managed in said database includes information such as manufacturer, product class, lot number, quantity, working steps, and forecast complete date [*Fig. 4*].

7. Claims 9-10, Maekawa teaches the information managed in said database further includes quality information [*abstract*].

8. Claims 11-12, Maekawa teaches the information managed in said database further includes quality information [*abstract*].

9. Claims 13-14, Maekawa teaches information managed in said database is quality information instead of production progress information [*abstract*].

10. Claims 15-16, Maekawa teaches the information managed in said database further includes quality information [*abstract*].

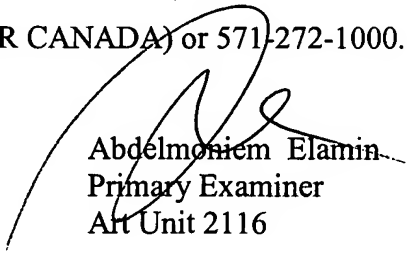
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdelmoniem Elamin whose telephone number is 571-2727-3674. The examiner can normally be reached on MON - THUR 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on 571-272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Abdelmoniem Elamin
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2116

October 1, 2006